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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/653,408	08/31/2000	Jean-Charles Mercier	Q60439	5345

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EXAMINER

GONZALEZ, JULIO C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/653,408

Applicant(s)

MERCIER ET AL.

Examiner

Julio C. Gonzalez

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperry in view of Utsunomiya et al (US 4,442,371).

Sperry discloses a wind power generator pod having a rigid fairing 1 in which generators 4 and 5 are disposed, a wind propeller 9 and the stator of the generators 4 and 5 contact the fairing 1 (see figure 1). Moreover, Sperry discloses that the pod have change direction or swivel at the end of mast 14 (see lines 92-94, 100-103 & figures 1, 3, 9).

However, Sperry does not disclose that the stator has lateral openings extending through the stator.

On the other hand, Utsunomiya et al discloses for the purpose of improving the construction of a cooling ventilation flue for a stator, an electrical machine having lateral openings 4, 5 extending through the stator 2 (see figure 2).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to design a wind power generator as disclosed by Sperry and to modify the invention by having a stator with lateral openings for the purpose of improving the construction of a cooling ventilation flue for a stator as disclosed by Utsunomiya et al.

3. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperry and Utsunomiya et al as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Carter, Jr. et al.

The combined wind power generator discloses all of the elements above. However, the combined wind generator does not disclose having a gearbox.

On the other hand, Carter, Jr. et al discloses for the purpose of obtaining maximum benefit from a wind driven generator, a wind-power generator (see figures 1 and 2) in which a generator 34 is inside a pod and coupled to a propeller 14 and the generator 34 is coupled to a gearbox 36 inside the pod.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to design the combined wind power generator as disclosed above and to modify the invention by attaching a gear to the generator for the

purpose of obtaining maximum benefit from a wind driven generator as disclosed by Carter, Jr. et al.

4. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperry and Utsunomiya et al as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Benoit.

The combined wind power generator discloses all of the elements above. However, the combined wind power generator does not disclose using a tubular sleeve around the pod.

On the other hand Benoit discloses for the purpose of taking advantage of high wind speeds thus improving efficiency of the wind power generator that the pod 58 is surrounded by a tubular sleeve forming an annular air passage along the pod (see figures 2 and 3).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to design the combined wind generator as disclosed above and to make a tubular sleeve surrounding the pod for the purpose of taking advantage of high wind speeds thus improving efficiency of the wind power generator as disclosed by Benoit.

5. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperry and Utsunomiya et al as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Rao.

The combined wind power generator discloses all of the elements above. However, the combined wind power generator does not disclose that a stator may be attached to a fairing by interference fit.

On the other hand, Rao discloses for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the generator assembly and keeping the generator laminations firmly in place during generation operation, a stator 15, which is assembled into the housing 13 with an interference fit (column 4, lines 30-31 & see figure 2).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to design the combined wind generator as disclosed above and to have an interference fit between the stator and housing for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the generator assembly and keeping the generator laminations firmly in place during generation operation as disclosed by Rao.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

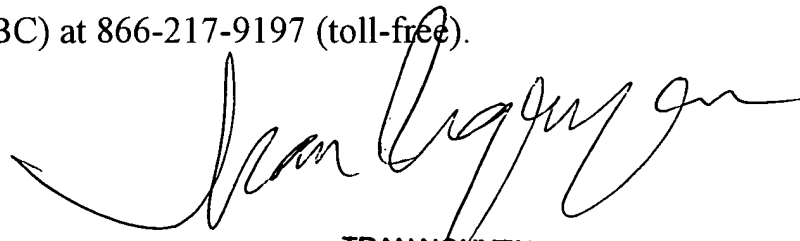
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julio C. Gonzalez whose telephone number is 571-272-2024. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8AM-5PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jcg



TRAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER